

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO STUDY THE SUITABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF DESIGNATING THE WACO MAMMOTH SITE AREA IN WACO, TEXAS, AS A UNIT OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

DECEMBER 5, 2001.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. HANSEN, from the Committee on Resources,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 1925]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Resources, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 1925) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. STUDY AND REPORT REGARDING WACO MAMMOTH SITE AREA.

(a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the State of Texas, the city of Waco, and other appropriate organizations, shall carry out a special resource study regarding the national significance, suitability, and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area located in the city of Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System.

(b) **STUDY PROCESS AND COMPLETION.**—Section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5(c)) shall apply to the conduct and completion of the study required by this section.

(c) **SUBMISSION OF STUDY RESULTS.**—Not later than 3 years after funds are first made available for this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report describing the results of the study.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H.R. 1925 is to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Located near the confluence of the Brazos and the Bosque rivers, in Waco, Texas, the Waco Mammoth Site Area, is an area discovered by a University of Baylor staff member investigating a report by local residents of bones eroding from a creek bank nearby. By 1997, the bones of twenty-two Columbian mammoths, warm weather cousins to the woolly mammoth, were unearthed. Excavation and research continues but many of the remains are now in storage. The amount of mammoth remains make the Waco Mammoth Site Area the largest known concentration of a single herd of mammoths dying from the same event.

This legislation would authorize the National Park Service to study the Waco Mammoth Site Area's suitability for inclusion as a unit of the National Park System.

COMMITTEE ACTION

H.R. 1925 was introduced on May 21, 2001, by Congressman Chet Edwards (D-TX) and referred to the Committee on Resources. On May 30, 2001, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation, and Public Lands. On October 4, 2001, the Subcommittee held a hearing on the bill. On November 15, 2001, the Subcommittee met to mark up the bill. Congressman George Radanovich (R-CA) offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute that made two changes to the original text. First, it specified that the study of the Mammoth Area Site will be a special resource study to determine the national significance, suitability, and feasibility of adding the Mammoth Site to the National Park System. Second, it directed the Secretary to submit the study to the House Committee on Resources and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee no later than three years after funds are made available, as opposed to six months as stated in the original bill. The amendment was adopted by unanimous consent. The bill, as amended, was then forwarded to the Full Committee by unanimous consent. On November 28, 2001, the Full Resources Committee met to consider the bill. No amendments were offered and the bill was then ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding clause 2(b)(1) of rule X and clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Resources' oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in the body of this report.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Article I, section 8 and Article IV, section 3 of the Constitution of the United States grant Congress the authority to enact this bill.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. *Cost of Legislation.*—Clause 3(d)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires an estimate and a comparison by the Committee of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out this bill. However, clause 3(d)(3)(B) of that rule provides that this requirement does not apply when the Committee has included in its report a timely submitted cost estimate of the bill prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. *Congressional Budget Act.*—As required by clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this bill does not contain any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures.

3. *General Performance Goals and Objectives.*—This bill does not authorize funding and therefore, clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives does not apply.

4. *Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate.*—Under clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee has received the following cost estimate for this bill from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, December 3, 2001.

Hon. JAMES V. HANSEN,
*Chairman, Committee on Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 1925, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis.

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON
(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

H.R. 1925—A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System

H.R. 1925 would require the National Park Service (NPS) to conduct a study on the suitability and feasibility of making the Waco Mammoth Site Area in Texas a unit of the National Park System. The legislation would require the agency to report to the Congress on its findings within three years of receiving funds for the study.

Based on information provided by the NPS, CBO estimates that completing the required study and report would cost the federal government \$300,000 over the next three years, assuming avail-

ability of appropriated funds. H.R. 1925 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC LAW 104-4

This bill contains no unfunded mandates.

PREEMPTION OF STATE, LOCAL OR TRIBAL LAW

This bill is not intended to preempt any State, local or tribal law.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

If enacted, this bill would make no changes in existing law.